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CHARLES MOSTOLLER/METRO

9 shot in 30 hours

City's first major crime wave hit Monday to Tuesday with nine shot and two dead ◐ Colleen Fitzpatrick, pictured, mourns the loss of her daughter Jennifer who was gunned down in front of her home {page 02}

PLUS JUSTIN CHON GETS TO THE POINT {page 14}

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City rocked by crime wave after quiet start to new year

- Commissioner Ramsey calls one death 'particulary troubling'
- Mother said she lost her 'best friend' in daughter's homicide

With the year-to-date homicide rate down 40 percent in the first six weeks of 2013, the year was off to a quiet start.

But the temporary calm was shattered after at least nine people were shot — two of them fatally — in a little over 24 hours from Monday to Tuesday.

"Obviously, we're very concerned any time there's any crime," Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said yesterday.

"[Tuesday's] killing of a woman in a domestic-related homicide was particularly troubling."

A mother of four, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, 37, was shot and killed Tuesday morning outside her home on the 500 block of South Yewdall Street.

"It was just senseless," Fitzpatrick's mother, Colleen, said yesterday. "She was my best friend and I was her best friend."

Police on Tuesday arrested Fitzpatrick's on-again/off-again boyfriend of eight years, Anthony Alexander, 61, outside a West Philadelphia auto shop he owns.

"She was just getting on with her life and taking care of her kids. She was a loving, beautiful person and I'm going to miss her."

Colleen Fitzpatrick, who retired from the Philadelphia School District in October, said her daughter shared one young son with Alexander and was also mother to a second boy, as well as two teenage daughters.

"My concentration is going to be on these kids," she said. "I'm going to see that they're raised and taken care of as long as I can."

CHARLES MOSTOLLER/METRO

▶ Colleen Fitzpatrick, pictured, said her daughter Jennifer was just getting her life together. Jennifer was killed outside her home in West Philadelphia this week.

Domestic troubles

Fitzpatrick recently obtained a restraining order against Alexander, according to court documents. She was reportedly trying to escape from their relationship.

Fitzpatrick's mother said the man was well-known to the family but declined to provide too much detail regarding her relationship. "He's been arrested," she said. "And now he'll get what's coming to him." Alexander, who didn't have a criminal history prior to the slaying, was arraigned yesterday. He is charged with murder, violation of a protection order, possessing an instrument of crime, reckless endangerment and simple assault. Alexander is being held without bail and is next due in court March 13 for a preliminary hearing.

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

Timeline of shootings

- **4:30 p.m. Monday.** A 20-year-old man was shot in the leg and a 12-year-old boy was grazed by a bullet fragment on West Duncannon Avenue in Logan.
- **2 a.m. Tuesday.** A 46-year-old man was shot six times near Marshall and Venango streets in Franklinville.
- **8:05 a.m.** Fitzpatrick was shot and killed.
- **12:20 p.m.** A 28-year-old man was shot in the hand on Greene Street in Germantown.
- **Tuesday afternoon.** Two men in their 20s were reportedly shot in two separate incidents in Fairhill and West Oak Lane.
- **8 p.m.** Miguel Gonzalez, 23, was shot multiple times in the chest near Hancock and Dauphin streets in North Philadelphia and died.
- **10:15 p.m.** A 21-year-old man was shot in the back at 18th Street and Ogontz Avenue.
- **10:20 p.m.** A 29-year-old man was shot once in the face and twice in the chest on South Cleveland Street in Point Breeze. He is currently hospitalized in critical condition.

In the news

66%

Of city departments that didn't double-check the accuracy of employee work hours entered into the system by payroll clerks, according to the annual auditor's report released yesterday by City Controller Alan Butkovitz. Butkovitz said almost half of the department had no rules providing for disciplinary actions to be taken when workers are late or absent, and found at least 41 instances of employees in the Mayor's Office of Community Services who had excessive undocumented sick time. METRO

Local tweet

"Philadelphia accounts for a disproportionate share of Pennsylvania's crime."

@NRA WAS DOWN ON PHILLY YESTERDAY. MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF THE STATE'S HOMICIDE 2010 VICTIMS WERE KILLED WITH FIREARMS.

In the news

One arrested in massage parlor bust

CHINATOWN. A massage parlor raid on Tuesday netted one arrest, police said.

Officers from the Citywide Vice Enforcement Unit conducted a sting operation at Cuties Spa located at 1123 Race Street. Investigators said the bust was sparked by complaints that illicit sexual acts were being performed at the establishment.

Police arrested 41-year-old Star Gutierrez, of the 1200 block of Chestnut Street, after she allegedly solicited an undercover officer for sex acts.

Gutierrez was arraigned yesterday and is charged with prostitution, criminal solicitation, providing false identification to a law enforcement officer, forgery and identity theft. She was released on her own recognizance and is next due in court for a status hearing on March 5. METRO

Police: Man stole hundreds of gallons of diesel fuel from Wawa

SOUTHWEST PHILADELPHIA. A 55-year-old Kingsessing man has been arrested and charged with allegedly stealing 513 gallons of diesel fuel from a Wawa gas station.

Police said employees at a Wawa on the 8200 block of Bartram Avenue discovered the store's diesel fuel ground pump station was damaged around 11:30 a.m., Monday afternoon. Further investigation revealed that 513 gallons of diesel fuel were missing from the tank.

Investigators said the station's surveillance footage showed a Stroehmann box truck entering the Wawa parking lot and backing up to the diesel fuel ground pump on the lot's southwest corner.

513

Gallons police say Jones stole

The truck sat there for more than 40 minutes and left the lot "extremely weighed down in the rear," according to police.

Authorities were able to identify the operator of the truck as 55-year-old Keith Jones of the 5500 block of Belmar Terrace in Kingsessing. He was arrested at his home Monday.

Jones was arraigned shortly before 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and is charged with theft by unlawful taking, receiving stolen property, criminal mischief and possessing an instrument of crime.

He was released on his own recognizance and is next due in court March 12 for a preliminary hearing. METRO

Philly Soul owners training players for Chinese league

METRO FILE PHOTO

▶ Picture this ... but in China.

Philadelphia's indoor football league team is bringing some of that hometown "soul" abroad to China.

Yesterday, Philadelphia Councilman David Oh met with owners and executives with the Philadelphia Soul to discuss the team's plans to help its parent league, the Arena Football League, to expand into Asia.

Two of the Soul owners, Conshohocken businessman Martin Judge and Ron Jaworski, plan to introduce a six-team indoor professional football league in 2014. The Soul is investing $20 million to send athletic supplies overseas to help kick off player and coach training at Asian universities.

Judge said the Chinese have too many dull sports. He wants to liven up the sports scene.

"Soccer's boring," said Judge, a native of the Northeast. Judge added that the hardest part will be introducing the American brand of football to the people.

"They have no idea what football is," he said. "We've got to train them."

David Niu, president of AFL China, said he is excited for what the venture could mean for the two countries moving forward.

"For the Chinese, arena football is a very new sports event," Niu said, adding that he thinks people in China will like the sport and it could act as a cultural bridge. "I think the sport is good for USA and China people to understand each other."

Judge said the six Chinese teams would be sold for $10 million each. China plans to hold American AFL exhibition games in Beijing and Guangzhou in October, which would represent the first American football game played in China.

▶ Ron Jaworski

Quoted

"It was Ron Jaworski's idea, not mine. We had a few beers at the bar. Ron likes his beer."

MINORITY OWNER MARTIN JUDGE, REFERRING TO FORMER EAGLES QUARTERBACK, RON JAWORSKI, WHO CONCEIVED THE IDEA OVER A FEW COLD ONES

Tommy Rowan
tommy.rowan@metro.us

Protest. Pentagon

▶ Protesters call out what they see at Congress' swinish behavior.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Where's the pork? In the defense budget

Advocacy groups including Keystone Progress, Veterans for Peace and the Delaware Valley New Priorities Network yesterday delivered a petition with 15,000 signatures to Sen. Bob Casey's Philadelphia office. In light of the federal budget battle, activists called on Congress to pull the "Pentagon pork." They said trillions of dollars could be cut from defense spending over the next 10 years with no added security risks and the money would be better spent on social services and education. METRO

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In the news

Christie signs gaming bill

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie signed an online gaming bill, paving the way for the state to become the most meaningful individual state to pass online gaming legislation so far.

This was largely anticipated following his conditional veto on Feb. 7 of an online gaming bill passed by the state's legislature in December 2012.

Christie pushed for an increase in the gaming tax rate to 15 percent from 10 percent, a 10-year sunset provision to allow for a review of online gaming in the state, and additional safeguards. **REUTERS**

15%

Gov. Christie pushed for an increase in the gaming tax rate to 15 percent from 10 percent.

Twenty-five arrested in child porn operation

Twenty-four New Jersey men and a 17-year-old male were arrested last week in a massive child pornography operation that included distributing child rape videos, the New Jersey attorney general announced yesterday.

Among the accused include two men who are alleged to be babysitters and one who is a registered sex offender, according to a state police report.

The three-month long investigation, dubbed Operation Ever Vigilant, culminated Feb. 22.

According to Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiles, some of the files found involved prepubescent boys and girls being sexually molested. Some showed boys and girls performing sexual acts on themselves or others.

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

▶ Twenty-five men were arrested in a child porn ring.

Quoted

"The children they watch being tortured are violated again by their actions, and these offenders may pose a danger to other children because of their predilections." ATTORNEY GENERAL CHILES

Other videos found showed necrophilia and bestiality.

"Anyone who views and distributes child pornography — particularly the type of child rape videos targeted in this operation — puts himself in league with the predators who sexually assault children to create these videos," Chiles said.

The videos and images found by officials were shared through e-mail and file-sharing networks, the release said. New Jersey State Police, along with several local departments and county prosecutor's offices, were involved in the investigation.

Each man has been charged with second degree distribution of child pornography and fourth-degree possession of child pornography.

Evidence has been turned over to a forensic lab for examination. The investigation is ongoing. **METRO**

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Pope Benedict XVI says goodbye, but not farewell

There was no sadness, regret, nor nostalgia even on St. Peter's Square yesterday — the day of Pope Benedict XVI's final general audience. Among the tens of thousands of faithful there were smiling faces and a few tears, not from sorrow but from emotion. When he first emerged in his Popemobile, Benedict was greeted with an explosion of applause before he stopped to hold and kiss a baby.

If the faithful feared Benedict would disappear forever, words of comfort from the outgoing pontiff said otherwise.

"I do not return to private life, to a life of travel, meetings, receptions, conferences and so on. I do not abandon the cross, but remain in a new way near to the Crucified Lord," he told those gathered at St. Peter's Square. "I no longer wield the power of the office for the government of the Church, but in the service of prayer I remain, so to speak, within St. Peter's bounds."

▶ Pope Benedict XVI waves to the general audience yesterday in Vatican City.

PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"I no longer wield the power of the office for the government of the Church, but in the service of prayer I remain, so to speak, within St. Peter's bounds." BENEDICT

His final words, reassuring and not formal, were aimed directly at the heart of so many different people from all over the world, of all ages, united by this historical event.

He did speak of the testing times, comparing it to a noted Biblical passage. "[These years] have been a stretch of the Church's pilgrim way, which has seen moments joy and light, but also difficult moments. I have felt like St. Peter with the Apostles in the boat on the Sea of Galilee. ... There have been times when the seas were rough and the wind against us, as in the whole history of the Church it has ever been."

Luisa Mosello
METRO WORLD NEWS

The pope for dummies

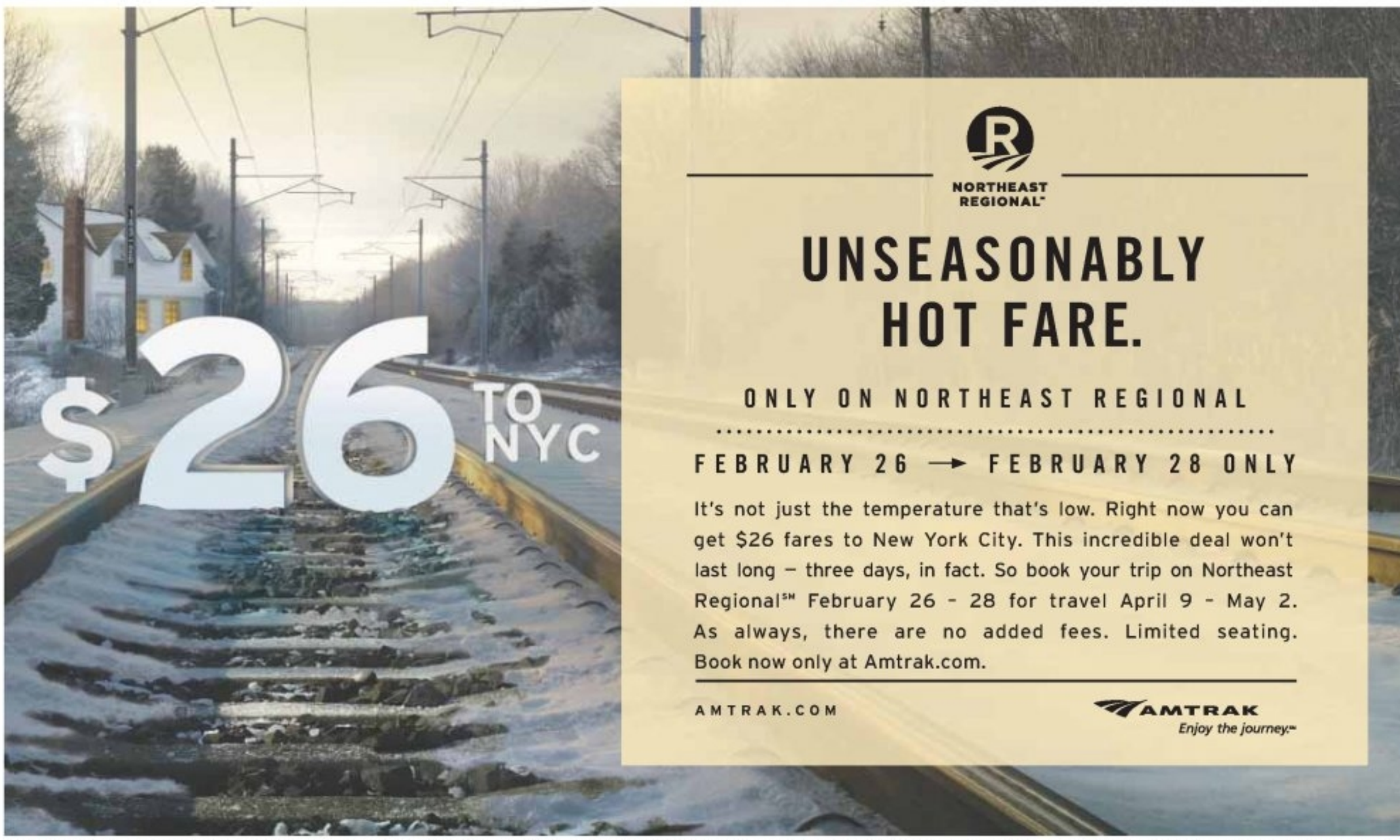
The Pope is resigning: an unprecedented event in modern times. Indeed, because the event is so unusual, the Catholic Church is charting new territory as Benedict XVI leaves office. Metro explains.

What happens today?
This is the last day of Benedict XVI's pontificate. In the morning, he meets with cardinals at the Vatican. Cardinals, which are based in countries around the world, have traveled to Rome for this event. They convene again in March to elect a new Pope. At 4:55 pm, Benedict XVI bids farewell to his staff and the Swiss Guards at the Vatican Apostolic Palace and travels by helicopter to Castel Gandolfo, the Pope's vacation residence. Once there, he will greet the crowds from the balcony.

At 8 p.m., Benedict XVI officially relinquishes the papacy. The Swiss Guards, who serve the Pope, depart and are replaced by soldiers of the Vatican Gendarmerie, who will be responsible for Benedict XVI's security until he dies.

What will the Pope do next? Is he even a Pope anymore?
As this is unchartered territory for the Church, officials have had to come up with new solutions. Benedict will be known as "Pope Emeritus" and will still be called "His Holiness Benedict XVI." He will continue to wear the white cassock reserved for Popes, but not the cape. Benedict, a renowned scholar, will live in a monastery, where he will spend his time studying and writing.

▶ The Popemobile will stay.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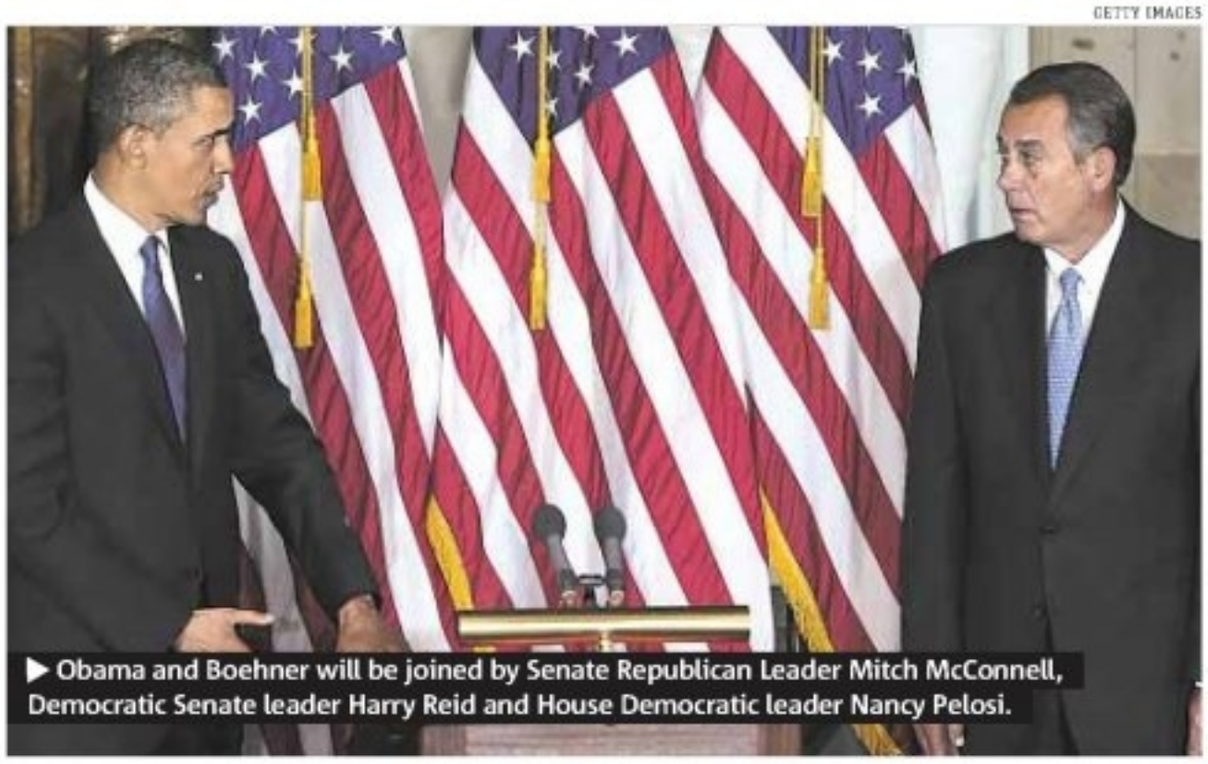
Obama will meet with congressional leaders about spending cuts

President Barack Obama will meet with top congressional leaders tomorrow to discuss the deep, automatic U.S. government spending cuts slated to go into effect that day, congressional and White House officials said yesterday.

Obama is set to meet with Republican Speaker of the House of Representative John Boehner, among other top leaders. The meeting would be the first between the leaders this year, despite weeks of haggling over whether and how Washington could avoid cuts known as the "sequester," which the White House has warned will cause damage to U.S. economic growth.

"The meeting Friday is an opportunity for us to visit with the president about how we can all keep our commitment to reduce Washington spending," McConnell said in a statement.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Obama and Boehner will be joined by Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, Democratic Senate leader Harry Reid and House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi.

Why after?

One congressional Republican aide criticized the White House for calling the meeting after the cuts, which are split between social programs cherished by Democrats and defense spending championed by the GOP, were slated to go into effect. "Either someone needs to buy the White House a calendar, or this is just a — belated — farce. They ought to at least pretend to try."

"We can either secure those reductions more intelligently, or we can do it the president's way with across-the-board cuts. But one thing Americans simply will not accept is another tax increase to replace spending reductions we already agreed to," he said. **REUTERS**

In the news

Hagel: America can't 'dictate' to the world

WASHINGTON. Decorated Vietnam veteran Chuck Hagel was sworn in as U.S. defense secretary yesterday after a bruising Senate confirmation battle, promising to renew old U.S. alliances and forge new ones without attempting to "dictate" to the world.

Addressing Pentagon employees shortly after a small, closed-door swearing-in ceremony, Hagel spoke optimistically, if vaguely, about global challenges ahead and the importance of American leadership abroad.

"We can't dictate to the world. But we must engage the world. We must lead with our allies," Hagel said in what appeared to be unscripted remarks. **REUTERS**

Conservatives on Supreme Court cast doubt on voting law

WASHINGTON. Conservative Supreme Court justices yesterday signaled strong doubts about the ongoing validity of a key part of the Voting Rights Act, passed in 1965 to end a century of attempts by formerly slaveholding Southern states to block blacks from voting.

During a tense and sometimes fractious oral argument, which extended beyond the scheduled hour, the nine justices considered the claim made by officials from Alabama's Shelby County that Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act was no longer needed nearly five decades later. The county had long chafed at federal oversight. **REUTERS**

▶ A voter gets ready to cast a ballot.

METRO FILE PHOTO

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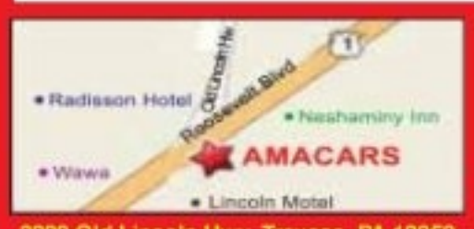

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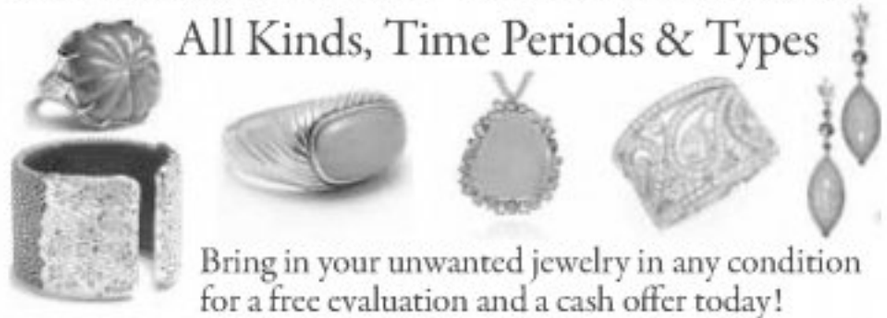

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THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Are Hemsworth and Cyrus done?

▶ Are Liam Hemsworth and Miley Cyrus done thanks to the floating head of January Jones (inset)?

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Attention **Liam Hemsworth**: If you're going to cheat on fiancee **Miley Cyrus**, don't do it at the Chateau Marmont. The Los Angeles hotel swarms daily with paparazzi and gossips; it's akin to taking out a billboard on I-95.

Here's the dirt: Hemsworth (aka: Mr. Miley To-Be) was seen getting "hot and heavy" with **January Jones** at a pre-Oscar party over the weekend, per Star magazine. "It looked like they had some hot chemistry," an eyewitness told the rag. "They were all over each other — and they even kissed!"

For her part, Cyrus showed up at the Elton John AIDS Foundation's viewing party sans date on Sunday and "was all over the place" (this is code for "drunk").

So what does this mean? I'm not sure. All I know is that Hemsworth is 23, while Cyrus is 20. This — the illicit kissing, the partying — sounds like appropriate behavior for people barely out of their teens. Not signing up for a lifelong contract with one another. But I'd be scared. Who wants an angry **Billy Ray Cyrus**? Good luck with that, January and Liam.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Katy Perry is feeling delicious, Lil Wayne is disappointed, John Cusack is experiencing technical difficulties and Rebel Wilson is enjoying her job.

@katyperry
If I were a cookie, I would be a thin mint girl scout cookie. FYI

@LilTunechi
Dam pit bull bro I thought u was kool.

@johncusack
Spell check hates me - always has

@RebelWilson
I got action onset with @channingtatum today. He is pure man steak luscious

Stone Temple Pilot fires Scott Weiland

My 13-year-old self is crushed: Stone Temple Pilots has fired lead singer **Scott Weiland** after 20 years of being the band's lead singer.

"Stone Temple Pilots have announced they have officially terminated Scott Weiland," the bang said in a statement. What's weird is that just this week Weiland gave this quote to Rolling Stone, "STP has not broken up. I haven't quit. I haven't been fired."

What is surprising is that the bang was even still together. But, honestly, don't be too worried. Everyone knows the money is in reunion tours.

weiland

Brown is heading to jail

Bobby Brown has been sentenced to 55 days in jail after pleading guilty to driving under the influence and driving with a suspended license, according to E! News. The charges stemmed from an October arrest when he was discovered behind the wheel without his dashboard Breathalyzer, a court-mandate condition from a previous charges. Brown, who reports for jail March 20, will also be on probation for 48 months and must complete an 18-month alcohol program.

Brown

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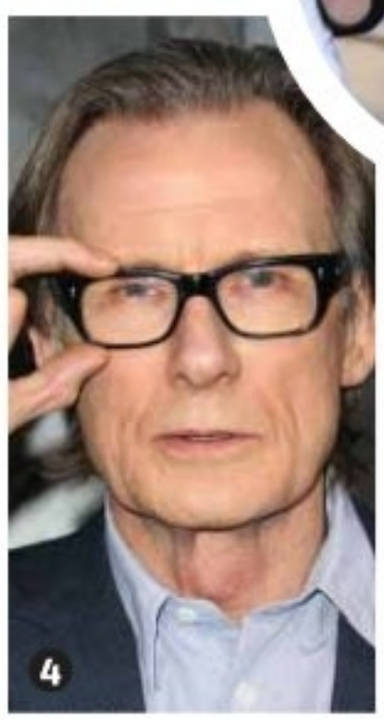
Wassup, Bieber?

1 The Allman Brothers' **Gregg Allman** and Train's **Patrick Monahan** hit up the All For the Hall New York concert benefiting the Country Music Hall of Fame on Tuesday in New York City.

2 Do you think **JLo** would be pissed to see her daughter **Emme** in the arms of ex **Marc Anthony**'s new girlfriend? Marc doted on ladyfriend **Chloe Green** and his twins, **Emme** and **Max**, in Disneyland on Tuesday.



3 We swear, he makes everyone swoon: **Prince Harry** met children at St. Bernadette's Centre for the blind, which is supported by his charity, Sentebale, on Wednesday in Maseru, Lesotho.

4 Try as he might to ever take on another role, we'll always have a mental image of **Bill Nighy** (seen here at the Hollywood premiere of "Jack the Giant Slayer") singing in his underwear in "Love Actually."

5 **Geri Halliwell** kept warm in a fabulous coat in London yesterday.

6 **Justin Bieber** is rolling in dough — and wearing it. The singer was also in London yesterday.

1 RICK DIAMOND/GETTY
2 JASON MERRITT/FILMMAGIC
3 CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES
4. FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY
5 NEIL MOCKFORD/FILMMAGIC
6 DAVID MEPHAM/FILMMAGIC

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mydating

Marriage is hard work — even if you're a famous hollywood couple

Shrink Wrap

DR. JANE GREER
LETTERS@METRO.US

When Ben Affleck accepted the Oscar for Best Picture, he thanked his wife Jennifer Garner and said that marriage is hard work, but it is the best kind of work. He's right — it takes great effort to find the balance between each person's needs and desires. Say football is your thing — it always has been, ever since you were a little kid watching at home with your dad. It's hard for you to understand why your new partner has no interest in it. You want to go to games together, talk about plays and plan weekends around the tailgate parties. If the answer is "no," what do you do? Ask for a compromise.

One couple I worked with had a basic problem: She wanted to stick to low-key staples like pizza and hot dogs, while he wanted to wine and dine on fancy, gourmet meals. The difference in their tastes was a source of constant bickering and resentment in their relationship.

Compromising is key in any relationship, even if — as Ben Affleck pointed out rather awkwardly — it takes work. In your relationship, you have to find a balance between your own pleasures and the things you love while respecting the things your partner is into, as well. Is there a way to include your significant other but not force-feed them?

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Even Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck have to work at their marriage.

This is where a little bit can really go a long way. You remember when you were a child and your mother wanted you to eat broccoli, right? It looked awful, but you had to have some to appease her, so you took a small bite. With that taste, you showed her you respected her wishes enough to open your mind a little bit. The same thing holds true in your relationship. Acknowledge to your partner that you understand and accept that football or pizza is not his or her cup of tea. When the playoffs roll around or a special event comes up, say that his or her company is important to you. Be clear that you know it is a sacrifice, but that a small portion — one game, or one slice of pizza — would mean a lot.

Doing this means you can share your passions and interests while respecting your partner's desires at the same time. The key is to encourage them to be open and try to appreciate what it is that you find so fascinating. Who knows, your partner just might like it. Sharing pleasures and being open to each other simply helps to turn the wheels for more mutual passion. Doesn't sound like such hard work, does it?

— Relationship expert **Dr. Jane Greer** *is creator of* ***"Shrink Wrap"*** *– national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships – and host of* ***"Let's Talk Sex"*** *at* ***Healthylife.net.*** *Her book,* ***"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"*** *is available nationwide.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

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10 REASONS TO SEE A MOVIE THIS WEEKEND

2 '21 & Over' The directorial debut of the guys who wrote "The Hangover" is a sensitive and insightful look at young adulthood. Just kidding, it's almost exactly like "The Hangover" but with guys who just hit drinking age.

3 'The Last Exorcism Part II' Turns out the "last" exorcism of 2010's "The Last Exorcism" wasn't actually the last exorcism. And can we really trust that this isn't the last exorcism either?

4 'Phantom' Ed Harris and David Duchovny play Russians aboard a submarine in the 1960s.

5 'A Place at the Table' Tom Colicchio of "Top Chef" executive produced this activist doc. It strives to shock the nation into awareness about the issue of "food security."

6 'The Gatekeepers' This acclaimed look at Israel's Shin Bet, the brutally effective counterterrorism agency, lost the Best Documentary Oscar to the more upbeat "Searching for Sugar Man." But you should still see it anyway.

Must-see

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

1 'Jack the Giant Slayer' Hot off not killing Hitler in "Valkyrie," Bryan Singer turns to a mash of "Jack and the Beanstalk" and the less-known folk tale "Jack the Giant Killer," starring Nicholas Hoult. We wouldn't believe this existed had we not seen it.

7 'Snitch' Dwayne Johnson plays a regular(ish) guy trying to take down a fearsome cartel after his son is busted by the DEA.

8 'Dark Skies' Keri Russell becomes the latest talented thespian caught in the grind of the horror machine, playing a mom fending off aliens.

9 '56 Up' The best idea for a film series ever — checking in with the same group of people every seven years since they were 7 — reaches its eighth round, with its subjects knee-deep in middle age and, in some cases, succumbing to health problems.

10 'Identity Thief' Last weekend, the poorly reviewed first vehicle for the talented Melissa McCarthy wound up back at the top of the box office. There are other movies, America. Try "Lincoln." It's not bad. MATT PRIGGE

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Flower Show promises to

- The theme this year is all things British
- Download the app to plan out your visit

COURTESY OF PHS

▶ Get a sneak peek at spring blooms at the 2013 Flower Show.

The 2013 Philadelphia Flower Show will be, as the British would say, brilliant. In Brit speak, the word is used to describe anything amazing and original, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society promises this year's show will be both. Exhibitors are recreating locations ranging from Jack the Ripper's Whitechapel to the Beatles' Abbey Road, by way of the Mad Hatter's tea party and the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London. "The 2013 Flower Show will be a British invasion of fantastic presentations, personalities, products and ideas," says Sam Lemheney, a PHS senior vice president.

10
Number of acres covered by the show, which is the largest one of its kind

Judy Weightman
letters@metro.us

Calendar

Several days will feature events targeted toward particular audiences.

- The LGBT community is invited to a party on Sunday, March 3, featuring Philly's favorite drag queen, Martha Graham Cracker.
- Brides- and grooms-to-be will find inspiration at "Wedding Wednesday" on March 6.
- A special "Girls' Night Out" will be held Thursday, March 7.
- On March 10, bring the kids for Family Day.

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be a jolly good time

Map it out

This flower show is the oldest in the world — the first one was held in 1829 — but the PHS is making sure to stay up to date with an app for smartphones and iPads.

Use the app's schedule of demonstrations, speakers and special events to plan your trip in advance, then use the maps, exhibitor information and shopping discounts to make the most of your time among the flowers. Download it at **www.theflowershow.com**.

If you go

The Philadelphia Flower Show
March 2 to 10
Pennsylvania Convention Center, 12th and Arch Streets
Tickets are $27 in advance and $32 at the door, with discounts for students and kids.

Visit a great wall

One of the most dramatic exhibits at the show will be a 21-foot-long living wall planted in the design of the Union Jack, the British flag. Another living wall will be planted in colorful collards and kale, to show how city dwellers can raise food in limited spaces — a nod to the PHS's work in encouraging urban farming.

Did you know?

Proceeds from the show are used to fund PHS programs that benefit people in the Philadelphia region, including City Harvest, which grows and donates produce, and Tree Tenders, which plants street trees.

Hats off

Go fashion-forward in a fascinator, one of those eye-catching floral headdresses you see on guests at a royal wedding (or on Lady Gaga for everyday wear). You can create your own at the Make & Take Room, then wear it on the exhibition floor, where a roving photographer might capture your image and post it on the show's Facebook page.

Not the fascinator type? You can make a wristlet — or your child can make a wizard's wand — instead.

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TV watch list

'Community'

COMEDY. "A Clockwork Orange" star Malcolm McDowell begins a two-episode guest arc as a history professor at Greendale. To what do we owe the extreme pleasure of this surprising visit? Something hilarious will ensue, surely.
8 p.m., NBC

'Project Runway'

REALITY. The contestants get geriatric in this episode, creating fashionable designs for senior citizens. Appropriately enough, 79-year-old Joan Rivers and her daughter Melissa serve as guest judges.
9 p.m., Lifetime

'Kathy'

TALK SHOW. The format is a little rocky, but Kathy Griffin's eponymous talk show offers a relaxed, fun vibe that stays true to her often outrageous, celebrity-driven humor. The most interesting aspect is the odd assortments of guests Griffin throws together for episodes. Tonight we're treated to the trifecta of Carmen Electra, Margaret Cho and ice skater Johnny Weir. We told you it's weird!
10 p.m., Bravo

'Nathan For You'

COMEDY. Funnyman Nathan Fielder takes his humor to the streets by offering marketing advice to small businesses in need of a makeover. Expect your typical Comedy Central brand of over-the-top laughs, as the premiere episode finds Fielder advising an ice cream parlor to offer a poop flavor. We're hoping the rest of the humor is a bit more savory than that.
Series premiere, 10:30 p.m., Comedy Central

MATTHEW JACOBS

▶ Kathy Griffin's Bravo talk show will feature the odd mix of Carmen Electra, Margaret Cho and Johnny Weir tonight.

GETTY IMAGES

On having a teddy bear glued to your crotch

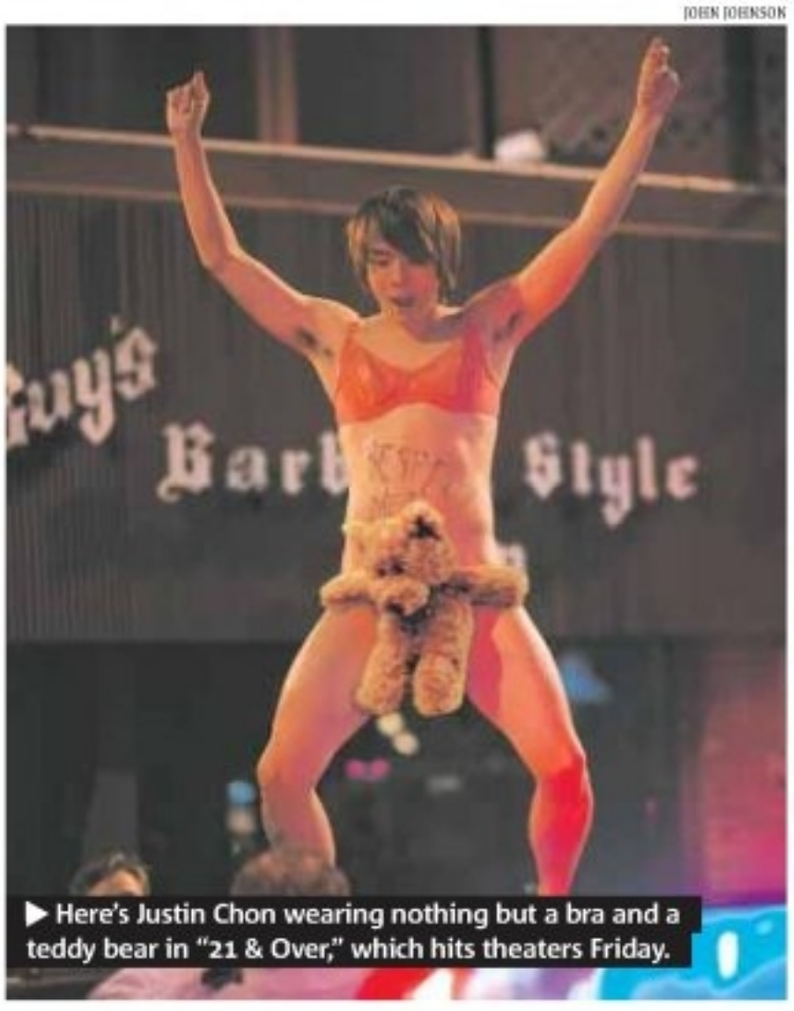
◗ '21 & Over' star Justin Chon talks working with the guys who wrote 'The Hangover,' avoiding drinking games and stereotypes

When actor Justin Chon sits down for our interview, he's coughing and looking a little worse for the wear. "I'm good," he insists. "I'm hungover, but I'm good." Promoting a film like "21 & Over" — about his college student character's 21st birthday getting out of control, from the writers of "The Hangover" — can come with its own risks, apparently. But it's all part of the job.

Between being carried around, dropped out windows, Tasered and having a teddy bear glued to your crotch, you're taking the brunt of the abuse in this film.
Yeah. My performance is very much a physical comedic performance, and f—, man. I'm taking a lot of abuse. I mean, my head got hit on doors, I'm getting thrown everywhere. The worst was [the scene] in a smart car, and I had to be [squashed onto] the f—ing dashboard. To get in like that, I had to twist my neck around. And I'm claustrophobic, so that was the worst.

You also had to do a very painful penis gag, something that's a staple for the "Hangover" guys.
Well, I'm grateful. At least they didn't give me a tiny pee-pee. They were like, "rest assured, we made you well-endowed." I looked at it and I was like, "Whoa. I don't know if my dick is that skin tone, but cool."

JOHN JOHNSON



▶ Here's Justin Chon wearing nothing but a bra and a teddy bear in "21 & Over," which hits theaters Friday.

How are you at drinking games in real life?
I've played them. But I'd much rather just drink, just get to the point. I don't need games. I guess it's just a way of getting people who don't want to drink to drink. It shouldn't be a punishment. It's a pleasure, it's part of being human.

Q&A

A lot of the humor relating to you being Asian-American in this movie seems to be at your expense. Was there anything you thought went too far?

▶ No, and that's what I love about Jon [Lucas] and Scott [Moore]. When we did our first rehearsal, they sat me down and asked me if anything was too far or if anything rubbed me the wrong way. But no, I thought everything was great. I mean, you've got to be able to laugh at yourself. And I think people who take themselves too seriously are just ridiculous. I didn't feel like there was a lot at the expense of my race. And I've gotten some s— already from people who haven't seen the movie. And I'm like, "Dude, lighten up, bro. It's funny." As an Asian-American I think it's a great role, and I fought hard to get it.

Ned Ehrbar
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mystyle

It's a mod, mod world: Banana Republic's 'Mad Men' collection is visiting the 1960s this spring

While we wait for "Mad Men" to get back on air, we can relive Megan Draper's groovy dresses and shorter hemlines with Banana Republic's new capsule collection based on season five of the AMC hit series. For spring, BR creative director Simon Kneen and the show's costume designer Janie Bryant channeled the mod styles of the '60s into the 50-piece line — which is perfect timing considering so many designers, including Marc Jacobs and Michael Kors, did the same on the spring runways. At much more reasonable prices — the collection ranges from $45 to $375 — ladies can find mini shift dresses in bold geometric prints, checked capris and separates with keyhole details. For guys, there are bold plaids, sport coats (they were just getting popular at the time), fedoras and skinny ties. Enjoy a peek at some looks from the line.

Tina Chadha
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Paris Fashion Week review

FEB. 27, 5 P.M.

At **Rochas**, Marco Zanini has taken the season's knee length skirt and blown it out, literally, into a swingy, mid-century flared stunner. The skirts stand out because they're so full and heavy looking, like the sort of thing you find in vintage shops but rarely see anywhere else. I can't help but wonder though if such a luxuriously heavy looking skirt would feel, well, heavy? He's also nailed the satin trend, manipulating everyone's go-to wedding dress material into a beautifully constructed closing gown that epitomises quiet elegance. Even the casual day wear, such as a pair of gray silk pajamas, look polished, in that trademark understated Rochas way. As the models take their finale walk, the audience starts whistling and hurraying. The collection is that good.

KENYA HUNT

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mykids

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOUR KID GOES TO CAMP

▶ There are an estimated 12,000 summer camps in the United States. Make sure you pick the right one.

Alan Saltz, the director of New York City's 92nd Street Y's Camp program, shares his 30-plus years of camp experience to let parents know what they should be asking

You might still be focusing on making it through the winter, but the time to start thinking about enrolling your child in summer camp is already in full swing. With so many options out there, it can be tough to make these decisions. Alan Saltz, director of summer camp programs at the 92nd Street Y in New York City, is here to help.

Quoted

"Every camp has its own little narrative about who they are and what they stand for. It is important to figure that out."

ALAN SALTZ

How can a parent determine if a child is ready for sleepaway camp?

If they've had sleepovers at friend's houses, or have been away from home for a short period of time, they can gauge how they've done in those situations. There are a lot of two-week options out there now, which is good for a lot of kids. Most kids seem to start at 8 or 9.

How do you recommend that a parent begin to research camps?

It's a long process. There are camp fairs that are offered on a regular basis. This gives a parent the opportunity to see a number of camps in one afternoon and meet with the directors. I recommend they talk not just about the activities and facilities, but talk about the staff, camp philosophy. Every camp has its own little narrative about who they are and what they stand for; it's important.

Do you have advice for how parents can prepare kids for their first camp experience?

Once they've made that decision, parents should have a running narrative with their kids about how much fun they're going to have, and what a great experience it's going to be. They should also address any concerns the kids have. They should also stay away from saying things like "I'm going to miss you so much" or talking about the things the child will miss going on at home while they're away.

Natalie Shure
natalie.shure@metro.us

Camp 101

What are the best things about the camp experience for kids? Why should parents be interested?

It gives kids an opportunity to develop skills and interests and abilities in areas that aren't focused on in schools. It's a less threatening environment. They can make friends and take risks a safe environment.

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Safety at camp

Whether it's day camp or sleepaway camp, it's always smart to make the right decisions about your child's summer plans

The questions

Angela Liddle, executive director of the Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance, a nonprofit agency that provides advice on good parenting practices and who are advocates for the protection of Pennsylvania's children, shares her professional advice for making sure your child has a fun — and safe — summer camp experience.

Summer camps

1. Looks can be deceiving, so ask for references.
2. Ask if it's accredited by the American Camp Association.
3. What are the camp director's credentials?
4. What's the camp's philosophy? (For example: Some camps promote competition and rivalry among teams. How does the camp philosophy fit with your child's personality?)
5. How are behavioral and disciplinary problems handled?
6. Are staff members safety-trained and capable of handling emergencies?
7. Are staff members informed about child abuse prevention? Have they undergone background checks?
8. What's the counselor-to-camper ratio? The younger the campers, the higher the ratio of staff to campers should be. Counselors should be at least two years older than the kids they supervise.

Daycare or day camp programs

1. Ask about credentials and philosophy, the same as you would when evaluating an away camp.
2. Inspect the daycare facility for cleanliness.
3. Are there fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and first aid kits? Does the staff know CPR?
4. Are toxic substances like cleaning supplies and pest killers safely well away from children?
5. Are play areas properly heated or cooled, spacious enough, well lit? If there's an outdoor play area, is it safe?
6. Are toys and equipment clean? Are they age-appropriate?
7. If provided, are snacks and meals healthy?
8. Is the staff trained to deal with issues unique to young children?
9. Are caregivers trained to dispense medications?
10. Is there a security policy about who can pick up your child?

METRO

Got shots?

Does the program keep records proving that all enrolled children are up-to-date on required immunizations?

Always ask: What's the camp's philosophy?

ISTOCK IMAGES

If you go

Summer camp roundup around the US

For the gamer: How about summer camp aboard a land-locked, simulated aircraft carrier? That's what campers from seventh to 12th grade get to do at the National Flight Academy's five-day immersive camp. The program, based at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., is especially good for kids who love video games, science, technology, engineering and math. For more info, go to **www.nationalflightacademy.com**

For the young entrepreneur: At the eight-day SuperBizCamp, a "mini-MBA" style course in entrepreneurship for teens aged 15-18 at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, each participant develops an original idea and then creates a sound business plan to bring their idea to life. Students present their proposals to a panel of judges for a chance to win seed capital. For more information, visit **www.superbizcamp.com.**

For the camper who wants to get fit: Children ages 10-17 who are eager to live a healthier lifestyle, lose weight and build self-esteem are invited to participate in the Imagine Me! I'm Up for the Challenge: 6th Annual New Image Camp Essay Contest. Win a nine-week campership at Camp Pocono Trails in Reeders, Pa., which is worth $11,500. **www.newimagecamp.com/contest.html.** Deadline for entry is June 1, 2013. METRO

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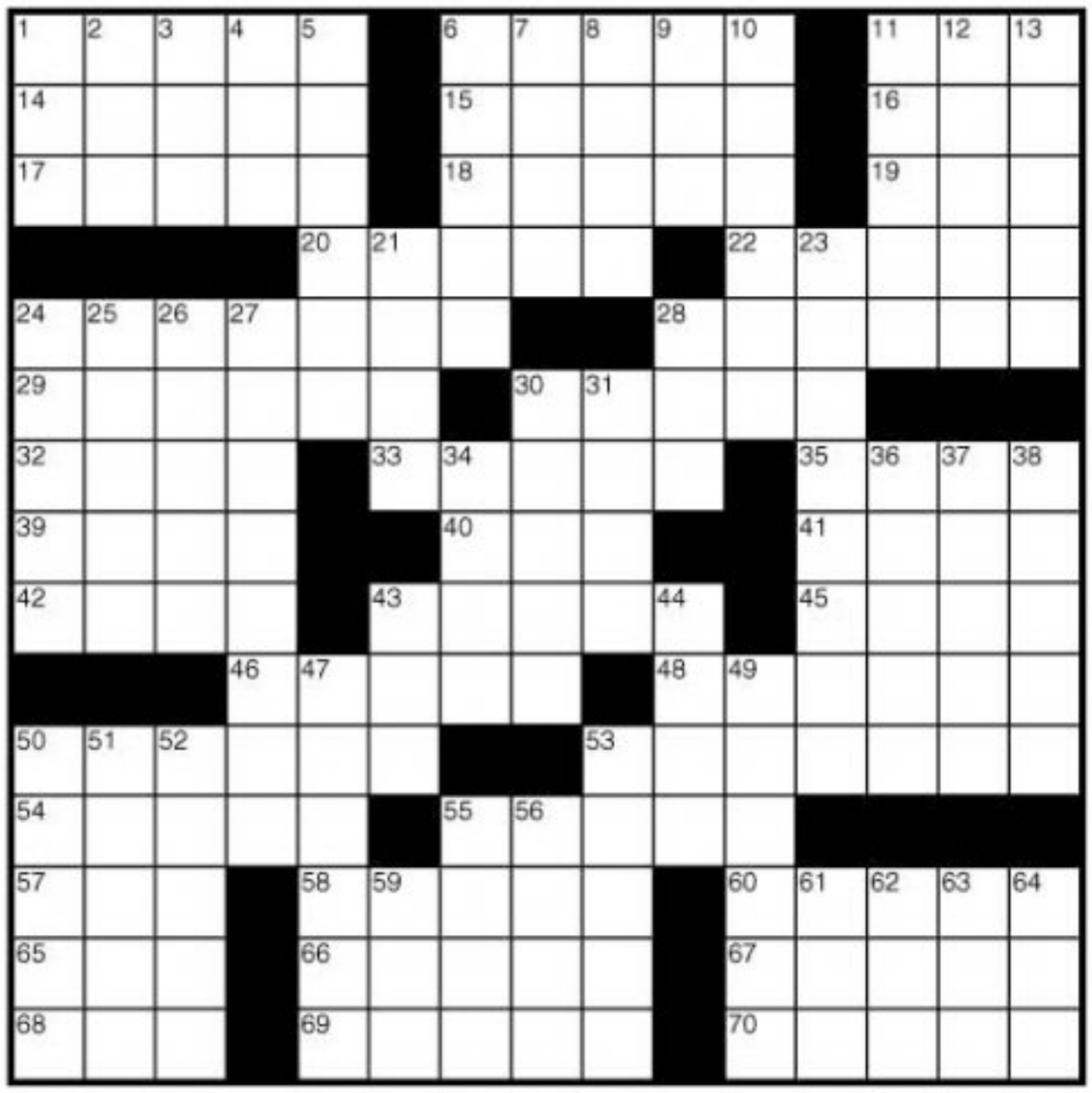

Across
1 Oft-quoted catcher
6 Sloping walks
11 Attorney's deg.
14 Standoffish
15 Moon's track
16 Bleachers shout
17 Sourdough
18 Keaton or Sawyer
19 Wharf denizen
20 Metal eaters
22 Bail out
24 SEAL, formerly
28 Like half-melted snow
29 Repair a boot
30 Deep-piled fabric
32 Mrs. David Bowie
33 Tooth type
35 Far East nanny
39 Colleen's home
40 Do a sewing chore
41 Director — Ephron
42 Black hole, once
43 Grind, as teeth
45 Seasonal libations
46 Mishmashes
48 Spotted wildcat
50 Miffs
53 Throb
54 Keep occupied
55 Jacques, in song
57 Box-score stat
58 Fixed up
60 Basilica areas
65 Wish undone
66 Title role for Madonna
67 Soft limestone
68 Up till now
69 Colorful transfer
70 Purse item

Down
1 Comic-book thud
2 Inventor — Whitney
3 Jimmy's successor
4 Sturgeon product
5 Chalet (hyph.)
6 "The Thinker" sculptor
7 Like the Mojave
8 CEO degrees
9 Brooch
10 Structural metals
11 Early harps
12 Filter
13 Eccentric
21 Serene
23 Astronomer — Kepler
24 Potato snacks
25 Pay by mail
26 Pat Morita show
27 Big-hearted
28 California's Big — 30 Entreaties
31 Hightails it
34 Cry of dismay (2 wds.)
36 Scratch
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38 Too big a hurry
43 Raw recruits
44 Day fraction
47 Ogled
49 Make a fist
50 Turn aside
51 Suffuse
52 Like most libraries
53 Organ feature
55 Acct. insurer
56 Beatles' meter maid
59 Morn's counterpart
61 "Gotcha!"
62 Boxy vehicle
63 Great North Woods roamer
64 Aurora locale

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Even though any rewards you reap will be due more to the efforts of others than your own, your prospects look exceptionally good. Later, you'll find a way to balance the account.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Do your best to keep all of your involvements in good, proper balance. Don't attempt to take on more than you can manage — but by the same token, don't idle your time away, either.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** When working on something you deem to be a labor of love, positive results are inevitable. Without question, the secret to your success is enjoying what you are doing.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Seek out activities devoid of competition that bring you together with friends whose company you enjoy. You need to relax, not vie with rivals.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** This could a particularly good time to invite friends over to your place for a little tete-a-tete. Most of the time, these impromptu get-togethers turn out great.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** You're likely to be exceptionally competent with projects that are more mental than physical in nature. You won't find a better day to rest your muscle and give your brain a workout.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Material increases are indicated if you operate along traditional lines. However, the picture could suddenly change if out of the blue, you decide to take a risk on something.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Although you have excellent leadership qualities, they will remain dormant unless there is something specific that you decide to do. Whatever your aim, it will require tact and grace.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** You could find yourself involved in something that affects others more than you. Rather than get deeply drawn in, keep a safe and respectful distance.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You have a wonderful faculty of being able to enjoy yourself regardless of the hand that is dealt you. You'll capitalize on this gift in two different situations.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Even though you might not be aware of it, you are apt to be the center of attention in at least one gathering. It'll be your convivial conduct that enhances these conditions.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** One of your best assets is being able to make friends with people from all walks of life. This wonderful quality will be in good working order — use it to your advantage.

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Solution to yesterday's crossword

Letters

Another needed sequester cut: All of the finger-pointing

The sequester is a bipartisan debacle that exposes the self-serving inefficiency of all our elected officials.

Our national budget is 3.6 trillion dollars. The sequester cuts 85 billion off of that 3,600 billion dollars. Why, as President Obama claims, should that cut "close funding for the disabled kid or the poor kid?"

Our president should be in Washington tempering an agreement between congressmen and senators to make not only painless but reasonable cuts to help rein in our national debt, not running around the country giving threatening and accusatory speeches.

ROBERT CAPRARO, VIA E-MAIL

Republicans have taken US hostage

I heard Senator Toomey on the radio today dismissing the possible "sequester" as no big deal.

He's wrong. To every person who will lose their paycheck, it is an enormously big deal.

The Republican game of obstructing anything and everything President Obama attempts has gone way too far already. T

hey have a stranglehold on the country — you can see how they held up Chuck Hagel's confirmation as Secretary of Defense because they could and finally let it go through — when they felt like it.

I, for one, am fed up. In any workplace people have to adjust, compromise and seek common ground to get anything done. In Boehner's terminology, his own party needs to get off its lazy ass and do its job.

PAUL SIMONS, VIA E-MAIL

Quoted

"How many politicians will lose their jobs if next week's cuts take place? I am guessing none."

MIKE SEFA, VIA E-MAIL ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S IMPENDING SEQUESTER

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8			6					

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Stutes feels he can return to 2011 form

Phillies reliever struggling with control early in spring training Confident in retooled pen

GETTY IMAGES

Stutes missed most of last season with a right shoulder injury. He said he has no "physical excuses" this season.

Michael Stutes is looking rusty out of the chute.

To be successful, Stutes must have control, something that has eluded him so far in spring training.

Stutes made his first appearance in a game in nearly 11 months last weekend. Stutes had command issues, but he's confident that he'll regain 2011 form before a right shoulder injury sidelined him last season.

Stutes was a revelation two years ago since he made a habit of getting ahead of hitters before expanding the zone with two strikes on the hitter.

"That's exactly what I have to do in order to be successful," Stutes said. "I do all that I can from getting behind in the count. I'm still working toward where I need to be. I'm confident that I'll get there."

There are three spots open in the bullpen. Stutes is competing with Jake Diekman, Justin DeFratus, Jeremy Horst and Phillippe Aumont.

"I don't think about the competition as much as I think about just being able to do what I'm capable of. I know I can do the job. I just have to go out there like I did in 2011 and throw strikes."

And his shoulder feels fine.

"I can't complain about that," Stutes said. "It's in very good shape. I have no physical excuses. I just have to go out there and execute my pitches. I want to be part of the bullpen. I believe this club has the chance to do something special this season and I want to be part of that."

Ed Condran
sports@metro.us

Put me in

The Phillies blew 13 eighth-inning leads in 2012, which proved to be the difference in missing the playoffs.

"I have a feeling that's not going to happen again," Stutes said. "Put me in a tight situation. Actually, put me in any situation."

3

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Top hoops adds

1. **Danny Granger, SF, IND** — Within two weeks, Granger will have kicked the rust off and earned his starting job back.
2. **Mo Williams, PG, UTA** — With his thumb nearly healed, Williams will step in as a focal point.

SHUTDOWN CITY

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

As we creep toward the NBA's finish line, garden-variety ankle sprains can become season-altering injuries.

▶ Owners expecting Tim Duncan to carry them down the stretch will be disappointed.

In an annual rite of passage, good players on bad teams will pack it in. Older players on playoff teams will downshift. Unfortunately, this often coincides with playoffs. Make adjustments:

Full Nelson

The Magic have blown up their roster and are carrying two quality backup point guards in **E'Twaun Moore** and **Beno Udrih**. **Jameer Nelson**'s oft-troublesome knee is acting up and he won't have much motivation to fight it. Orlando is playing for ping-pong balls.

Dunkin' down

Gregg Popovich is a master at getting his players to peak at the right time. That often means resting **Tim Duncan** down the stretch. Over the last three seasons, Duncan has never played more than 28 minutes a night in April.

In a flash

By now, it's very obvious that **Eric Gordon**'s knee issues are chronic. The Hornets didn't get the memo when they matched a four-year, $58 million offer sheet last summer, but fantasy owners should have. Gordon can't be trusted to play at all down the stretch.

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Union unveil new kit, open season Saturday

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Union unveiled brand new uniforms Tuesday night.

Sometimes, all it takes to change the attitude of a franchise is new uniforms. The jersey change made by coach Gordon Bombay in "The Mighty Ducks" turned his team from bottom feeders into District 5 champions.

Union manager John Hackworth is hoping for similar success for his club as they embark on a new season Saturday. On Tuesday, the Union held an unveiling of their new kit at Xfinity Live!

The new shirts feature a 'B' in the bottom left quadrant on the front of the jersey. The 'B' symbolizes the Bethlehem Steel, a soccer club which existed in the Philadelphia area from 1911-1930. The Steel were five-time winners of the U.S. Open Cup (1915, 1916, 1918, 1919, 1926) and were one of the most popular teams in Open Cup history.

Hackworth is excited to start the season and feels like the necessary steps have been taken to turn things around.

"Everybody feels like the work has been done and the preparedness is there," said Hackworth. "We're excited to start the new season and we're going to be playing for you [the fans] on Saturday."

The Sons of Ben packed the event and were decked out head to toe in Union jerseys, hats and sweatshirts. One of the founding members of the group, Grant Scavello, chimed in about the upcoming season.

"I think we're definitely set up for more success than last season," said Scavello. "With the addition of Conor Casey, as well as Jeff Park, it's definitely adding a lot of depth to the roster. [General manager] Nick Sakiewicz has really pushed this team to get back to where they were two years ago, not only regarding the new acquisitions but bringing guys back like Sebastien Le Toux as well."

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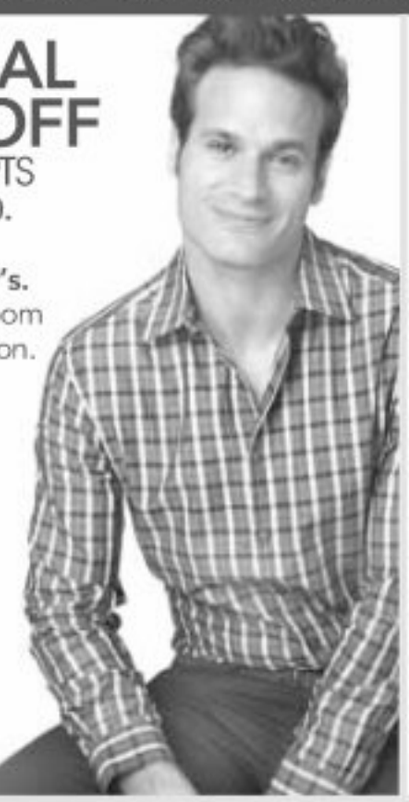

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